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## Community Goals

### A. Description of Process

Arlington's open space and recreational goals for the community are derived from the open space and recreational needs and desires of the Town's many constituencies. For this Plan, the Open Space Committee reviewed all previous goals and actions and prepared an extensive list of accomplishments, incorporating feedback and reports from many individuals and organizations. The progress made by the Town over the past seven years demonstrates and reinforces its commitment to these goals.

The 1996, 2002, and 2007 Plans, as well as this current Plan for 2015-2022 accept and support two overarching community goals (Environment and Culture and Recreation) of Arlington's Vision 2020, which Town Meeting has adopted and which Town decision-making bodies must consider in their policymaking. Furthermore, because Arlington's Vision 2020 has won numerous awards for its community planning and is composed of elected and appointed Town officials and community members, the committee believes Vision 2020 goals continue to represent Arlington's community and its commitment to open space and recreation issues.

These goals are also encompassed in the Town's Master Plan, which was adopted by the Arlington Redevelopment Board in February 2015.

### B. Statement of Open Space and Recreation Community Goals

Adopted from Arlington's Vision 2020 and the Town's bylaws, the following two statements now also serve as Arlington's open space and recreation community goals:

**1. Environment:** We value the physical beauty and natural habitats of our Town—parks, ponds, and wetlands, dramatic vistas and tree-lined streets—as they contribute to the well-being of our community. Recognizing the fragility of our natural resources, we must ensure that Arlington's residential areas, commercial centers and infrastructure are developed in harmony with environmental concerns. We will be known for our commitment to the preservation of Arlington's beauty, limited open space and resources, as well as our place in the regional and global community.

**2. Culture and Recreation:** We value the many opportunities to meet, play, and grow in Arlington while treasuring and preserving our unique historical resources. Our social, cultural, artistic, historic, athletic, recreational, and other community groups strengthen Town life. We will be known for the breadth and richness of our resources and activities available to Arlington citizens.

The fulfillment of the above community goals will make Arlington a more desirable and pleasant Town to live in and visit. Further, by bringing these community goals to fruition, Arlington's community may acquire a greater sense of awareness of and appreciation for the Town's open space.

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